

REMARKS

Claims ²1 and 13 have been cancelled. Independent system claim 1 and independent method claim 12 have been amended.

Claims 1; 3 to 12; and 14 to 17 remain in the application.

The claims as filed stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) based upon Giesler et al (US 5,746,708) ("Giesler") in view of Bormann et al (US 5,738,796). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Neither Giesler nor Bormann teaches or suggests a function that repeatedly alternates the pumping of blood cells from a source with the pumping of additive solution from a source according to a pre-established pumping sequence to mix the additive solution with the blood cells at a substantially constant ratio.

On January 29, 2002, Applicant submitted formal drawings. Applicants attach the date stamped postcard from the PTO indicating receipt of the formal drawings on February 12, 2002. As a courtesy to the Examiner, Applicants are submitting with this amendment a duplicate set ✓ of formal drawings, as originally submitted on January 29, 2002.

The Applicants hereby address the Examiner's objections to the specification and drawings:

(1) The Examiner states that Fig. 9 is missing the rotational arrow. The Applicant respectfully points out that Fig. 9 as filed informally and formally contains the rotational arrow (at the top of the drawing).

(2) The Examiner indicates that reference numerals "70" and "71" on page 18 refer to the same groove. The Applicants respectfully point out that reference numeral "70" refers to a groove on the latch arm, and that reference numeral "71" refers to a different groove on the rotor plate. For clarification, the Specification on page 18, lines 6 to 13 has been amended to change "groove 70/71" to "grooves 70/71."

(3) The Specification on page 16 has been amended to change "region 124" to "region 134."

(4) The Specification on page 18, lines 6 to 13 has been amended to change "latch arm 70" to "latch arm 66."

(5) The Specification on pages 12 and 14 have been amended to change "container 280" to "container 208."

(6) Reference numeral 216 in Fig. 1 is described on page 10, lines 1 to 16 (cassette holder 216).

(7) Reference numeral 208 in Fig. 3 is described on page 35, lines 3 to 8. See also item (5) above.

(8) Reference numerals 128, 130, and 132 on Figs. 5 and 9 are described on page 40, lines 5 to 14; reference numeral 136 on Fig. 5 is described on page 16, lines 14 to 19.

(9) Reference numerals 180 and 181 have been removed from Fig. 6.

(10) Reference numeral 185 has been removed from Fig. 7.

(11) In Fig. 22, reference numeral "180" has been changed to "18."

(12) Reference numeral 118 is described on page 39, line 34.

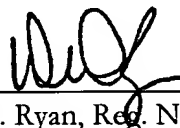
(13) Reference numeral 232 has been removed from Fig. 29.

(14) The Examiner states that proper trademark usage has not been followed. The Applicants respectfully request clarification. Applicants note that "TM" is used in association with trademarks through the specification.

The application and claims, as amended, are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Respectfully Submitted,

By



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